

CHAPTER 664.

(House Bill 761)

AN ACT to add a new paragraph to Section 6 of Article 4 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland (1938 Edition), title "Baltimore City", sub-title "General Powers", to be headed "(13A) Land Development Commission", and to follow immediately after the paragraph headed "(13) Jones' Falls", of said Section 6 of said Article 4. Authorizing the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore to establish a Land Development Commission, with certain powers and subject to certain limitations.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland*, That a new paragraph be and the same is hereby added to Section 6 of Article 4 of the Code of Public Local Laws of Maryland (1938 Edition), title "Baltimore City", sub-title "General Powers", to be headed "(13A) Land Development Commission", and to follow immediately after the paragraph headed "(13) Jones' Falls", of said Section 6 of Article 4, which said new paragraph shall read as follows:

(13A) LAND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

It is hereby declared that the purpose of this Act is to enable and empower the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore to accomplish a public purpose, namely the elimination of certain blighted areas and slums in Baltimore City and the erection of low rent housing and collateral facilities. It is further declared that, in Baltimore City there exist slums and insanitary housing conditions owing to obsolescence, excessive land coverage, lack of planning, lack of public facilities, light, air and space; that persons of low income are forced to reside in such insanitary and unsafe accommodations, which cause an increase and spread of disease and crime and constitute a menace to the health, safety, morals and welfare of residents of Baltimore City; that the slums and blighted areas cannot be eliminated or the areas be rehabilitated without proper planning and supervision by some public agency; that the exodus of population from such areas results in further depreciation and added cost to the City to provide all public services; that the prevalence of the above-mentioned conditions are conducive to ill health, transmission of disease, infant mortality, juvenile delinquency, crime and poverty, and that it is desirable and to the material interest of the public to create a publically supervised medium through which private capital, contractors, builders and other similar private interests may be encouraged to undertake on a substantial scale the risks of re-development of such blighted and slum areas.